

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19, without prejudice, and add new claims 20-32 as follows:

20. (Original) A disposable ampoule opener comprising an elongated housing member having an inner cavity shaped to receive a portion of an ampoule, a longitudinal housing axis, an open housing end, a closed housing end, sidewalls disposed between the open housing end and the closed housing end, the sidewalls having an outer housing surface and an inner housing surface forming at least a portion of the inner cavity; and a lid rotatably secured by a hinge to the housing proximate the open housing end.
21. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, additionally comprising a latch for keeping the open housing end covered with at least a portion of the lid.
22. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, additionally comprising a latch that includes a first latch structure integral with the elongated housing proximate the open housing end and a second latch structure integral with the lid, the first and second latch structures being capable of interlocking to secure the lid in a closed position.
23. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, additionally comprising means for securing the lid in a closed position.
24. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the elongated housing member includes two sections hingedly connected to one another.
25. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein either the lid includes an aperture and the elongated housing member a protrusion sized to fit into the aperture; or the elongated housing member includes an aperture, and the lid includes a protrusion sized to fit into the aperture.

26. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, additionally comprising a hinge by which the lid is rotatably secured to the elongated housing member.
27. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, additionally comprising a plastic bendable hinge by which the lid is rotatably secured to the elongated housing member.
28. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, the lid having an outer surface and a company logo thereon.
29. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, the lid having an outer surface with a substantially smooth portion outer surface and a company logo.
30. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the closed housing end is substantially transparent.
31. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the closed housing end is sufficiently transparent to enable viewing of a portion of an ampoule inside the housing.
32. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the outer housing surface of the elongated housing has one or more outer ridges on a portion of the outer housing surface, the ridges being perpendicular to the longitudinal housing axis.
33. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the elongated housing includes two housing sections connected to one another, and wherein the inner housing surface forming at least a portion of the inner cavity includes at least one inner rib circumscribing at least a portion of the inner housing surface proximate the open housing end and having an inner diameter sized to receive the neck portion of the ampoule.
34. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the first and second elongated housing portions are hingedly connected to one another such that the first elongated


housing portion is capable of being rotated toward the second housing portion to form an enclosed cavity with an open housing end and a closed housing end, the first elongated housing portion having a substantially concave first inner surface, the second elongated housing portion having a substantially concave second inner surface, the structure further including one or more ribs forming part of the first elongated housing portion or the second elongated housing portion.

35. (Original) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 20, wherein the elongated housing includes a first housing portion and a second housing portion, the first and second housing portions being hingedly connected to one another, the first and second housing portions having one or more latches for securing the first and second housing portions together when in a closed position.

REMARKS

The Applicant requests that the Examiner enter the amendment prior to examining the application. The specification has been amended to correct informalities. Claims 1-19 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 20-35 have been added, and do not constitute new matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas H. Elliott
Registration No. 32,982
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant